

SOURCES OF LOVE AND HATE

155

puberty. For the parent it is a problem which begins at birth. Children as young as six months begin it."

7. FAMILY PLAY, AND IDEAS ABOUT BABIES AND MARRIAGE

22.10.24. Robert and then George and later Frank pretended to have a baby in their arms and rocked about, saying, "Baby, baby, baby!"

26.11.24. Frank and Benjie spoke of someone who was "crazy"; she was "going to the police station, and getting married, and then we will kill her after that."

29.1.25. George and Frank drew on the window with their fingers, the windows being a little steamy. George drew a picture of Frank, "When you were a baby," he said.

Miss B. reported that yesterday, during the rest hour, the children had talked about putting one's thumb in one's mouth. Dan said, "Henry" (his father) "does, when he goes to sleep." Frank said, "He's a naughty boy." Dan: "Oh no, I don't call him a naughty boy—he's a man." Frank: "Was he a boy when you were a little baby?" Dan seemed puzzled and asked, "What did you say?" Frank repeated the question, and Dan seemed to consider, and said, "I don't know."

3.2.25. Frank told everyone that when he was coming to school he saw "a carriage all dressed up with ribbons; he thought "someone was going to be married." Christopher said, "Yes, someone is going to be married, aren't they?" The children all joked and laughed about this for some time, Christopher said it was "Mrs. Laws". They all laughed. Frank said, "When she is married we shall spit in her face, shan't we?"

9.2.25. Frank plucked some laurel leaves and said, "It's a wedding." He ran round the garden

with the leaves.

12.2.25. In the morning, when Christopher was modelling, he made a " duck ", the head and mouth of a duck, with the mouth wide open, and then talked of the " baby duck ". Then presently, while cutting a piece of plasticine up, he said, " Here is another mother duck being born."

13.2.25. Frank found some small cards with numbers printed on and called them " wedding cards "; used them as confetti, running round the room and scattering them over all the other children. He kept talking of a " wedding "